

TABLE 30. Educational attainment of doctorate recipients' parents, by sex, citizenship, race/ethnicity, and broad field of study: 2009

Demographic characteristics and field of study	Total number	Parental education attainment (%)				
		All	High school or less	Some college ^a	Bachelor's degree	Advanced degree
All doctorate recipients ^b						
Father's education ^c	43,722	100.0	26.4	13.0	26.0	34.7
Mother's education ^d	43,893	100.0	33.3	17.0	26.3	23.4
Sex						
Male						
Father's education	23,277	100.0	26.4	12.2	26.6	34.8
Mother's education	23,326	100.0	35.1	15.7	26.4	22.7
Female						
Father's education	20,444	100.0	26.4	13.9	25.2	34.6
Mother's education	20,566	100.0	31.2	18.4	26.2	24.2
Citizenship						
U.S. citizen or permanent resident						
Father's education	30,211	100.0	24.2	14.2	23.0	38.6
Mother's education	30,366	100.0	27.7	19.2	26.1	27.0
Temporary visa holder						
Father's education	13,467	100.0	31.4	10.3	32.5	25.8
Mother's education	13,482	100.0	45.9	12.1	26.7	15.3
Race/ethnicity (U.S. citizens and permanent residents)						
American Indian ^e						
Father's education	126	100.0	48.4	16.7	14.3	20.6
Mother's education	125	100.0	46.4	22.4	12.8	18.4
Asian						
Father's education	2,532	100.0	20.1	9.4	28.2	42.3
Mother's education	2,531	100.0	31.0	12.6	32.9	23.5
Black						
Father's education	1,912	100.0	45.6	19.3	13.7	21.4
Mother's education	1,963	100.0	38.0	23.1	17.3	21.5
Hispanic ^f						
Father's education	1,708	100.0	39.9	14.5	18.6	27.0
Mother's education	1,718	100.0	43.2	18.4	19.0	19.4
White						
Father's education	22,920	100.0	21.6	14.2	23.7	40.5
Mother's education	23,005	100.0	25.2	19.6	26.8	28.4
Two or more races						
Father's education	622	100.0	23.2	16.9	19.6	40.4
Mother's education	634	100.0	28.7	19.9	22.4	29.0
Field of study						
Life sciences ^g						
Father's education	10,216	100.0	24.6	13.8	26.6	35.0
Mother's education	10,254	100.0	30.8	17.7	27.4	24.1
Physical sciences ^h						
Father's education	7,434	100.0	24.1	12.5	27.5	35.9
Mother's education	7,457	100.0	32.3	15.6	27.8	24.3
Social sciences ⁱ						
Father's education	6,792	100.0	24.4	13.0	24.3	38.2
Mother's education	6,811	100.0	29.8	17.7	26.3	26.3
Engineering						
Father's education	6,827	100.0	23.8	11.2	32.4	32.6
Mother's education	6,840	100.0	35.6	14.3	30.0	20.2
Education						
Father's education	5,677	100.0	39.8	15.7	18.9	25.5
Mother's education	5,708	100.0	43.1	21.0	18.3	17.6

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Demographic characteristics and field of study	Total number	Parental education attainment (%)				
		All	High school or less	Some college ^a	Bachelor's degree	Advanced degree
Humanities						
Father's education	4,295	100.0	21.2	11.7	23.6	43.4
Mother's education	4,327	100.0	27.4	15.7	27.5	29.4
Other non-S&E fields						
Father's education	2,481	100.0	31.2	12.0	25.4	31.5
Mother's education	2,496	100.0	37.6	16.6	24.0	21.8

^a Includes those who have attended college, but not earned a bachelor's.

^b Includes Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islander and those of other/unknown race/ethnicity.

^c Total count excludes 5,442 who did not report father's education and 398 (0.9%) who reported "not applicable."

^d Total count excludes 5,371 who did not report mother's education and 298 (0.7%) who reported "not applicable."

^e Includes Alaska Natives.

^f Persons reporting Hispanic ethnicity, whether singly or in combination with one or more races, are included in the respondent-selected Hispanic ethnicity category.

^g Includes agricultural sciences/natural resources, biological/biomedical sciences, and health sciences.

^h Includes mathematics and computer and information sciences.

ⁱ Includes psychology.

NOTE: Due to rounding, the sum of percentages may not equal to 100.

SOURCE: NSF/NIH/USED/USDA/NEH/NASA, 2009 Survey of Earned Doctorates.